

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
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AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: UNHRC, SHUM
SUBJECT: 34TH HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION: ANTI-SHAH
DEMONSTRATION DISRUPTS CLOSED HRC SESSION

1. THE FEBRUARY 28 MORNING SESSION OF THE HRC WAS
DISRUPTED FOR 10-15 MINUTES BY AN EMOTIONAL BUT NON-
VIOLENT DEMONSTRATION BY ABOUT TEN WELL-DRESSED YOUNG
MEN (APPARENTLY IRANIANS) AGAINST THE SHAH.

2. THE COMMISSION BEGAN CLOSED SESSION DISCUSSIONS AT
10:00 A.M. ON HOW TO PROCEED IN CONSIDERING HUMAN RIGHTS
COMPLAINTS AGAINST SEVERAL COUNTRIES (NOT INCLUDING IRAN)
UNDER THE HRC'S CONFIDENTIAL "RESOLUTION 1503" PROVISIONS.
SHOUTING ERUPTED IN THE LOBBY OUTSIDE OF THE CHAMBER AT
ABOUT 11:00 A.M. AND THREE OR FOUR DEMONSTRATORS PENETRA-
TED THE CONFERENCE ROOM. THEY SHOUTED "DOWN WITH THE FACI-
ST SHAH" AND BRANDISHED A BANNER AND THEW PAMPHLETS
EXPRESSING SIMILAR EXHORTATIONS.

3. AS THE GUARDS MANAGED TO CONTAIN MOST OF THEM IN THE
ENTRANCE WAY, ONE PROTESTER, DRAGGING A GUARD WITH HIM,
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MOVED SCREAMING ACROSS THE BACK OF THE CHAMBER AND BEGAN
DOWN THE AISLE TO THE CENTER OF THE CHAMBER. A MEMBER OF
USDEL WENT TO ASSIST THE GUARD, WHO WAS CLEARLY UNABLE TO
STOP THE DISSIDENT. HOWEVER THE GUARD IMMEDIATELY
RELEASED HOLD OF THE PROTESTER AND RETREATED. SEVERAL
MINUTES PASSED BEFORE GUARDS ARRIVED TO TAKE THE TUGGING
PROTESTER FROM OUR DELOFF. NEITHER PARTY SUFFERED NOR

TRIED TO INFLICT INJURIES.

4. THE DEMONSTRATION CONTINUED TO SPUTTER FOR ANOTHER 15 MINUTES IN THE LOBBY OUTSIDE OF THE ROOM AND REACHED SEMI-COMIC PROPORTIONS WHEN GUARDS AND PROTESTERS BLENDED INTO A SHOUTING HEAP AT THE FOOT OF THE "UP" ESCALATOR. THE PROTESTERS WERE FINALLY SORTED AND ESCORTED OUT, RATHER DISPIRITEDLY CONTINUING TO CHANT "SHAH ASSASSIN" AND "FACIST SHAH." WE DO NOT KNOW IF THEY WERE TURNED OVER TO THE SWISS POLICE.

5. THE IRANIANS AND SEVERAL OTHER DELS MADE STATEMENTS CRITICIZING THE SECRETARIAT FOR THE DEMONSTRABLY INADEQUATE SECURITY PROVISIONS.

5. COMMENT: THE DEMONSTRATORS SEEMED INTENT UPON ONLY MAKING A NOISY BUT NON-VIOLENT SHOW AT THE COMMISSION. AS THE SESSION WAS CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC, THERE WERE OF COURSE NO PRESS OR MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM ITSELF. NOR WERE ANY DISCERNIBLE IN THE LOBBY OUTSIDE. VANDEN HEUVEL

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